

NOSTALGIA

Success behind bleak walls of Bar Hill and no growth in Fen Ditton



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Mr and Mrs Robert Burry and their daughter, Elizabeth

MIKE PETTY AND JAMES MILNER LOOK THROUGH THE **CAMBRIDGE NEWS** ARCHIVES AT SOME OF THE STORIES FROM THIS DAY IN THE PAST

'A community with a real sense of caring' - 1986

PLANS for a new village five miles from Cambridge city centre were first announced in March 1963.

Pessimists said it could not be done. The mere idea of planting a whole new community out among fields was enough to give most sociologists the jitters but the News put its voice firmly behind the plan from the start.

Then, in March 1967, Mr and Mrs Robert Burry and their daughter, Elizabeth, became the first family to move into the new Bar Hill. They love it, but others have felt like 'pioneers in the outback'.

Behind the bleak-looking walls of Bar Hill, a community with a real sense of caring has sprung up. From the start, residents have worked to make the village a success.

There was a time when few people

wanted to live there and many only went because property prices were cheaper. But in recent years prices have caught up and houses sell readily.

The school is open until 10pm each night for a range of activities including bowls, yoga and table tennis. It will never be a picturesque village but is much more than a building estate in the middle of a field.

Buildings 'incompatible' with character - 1959

THE inquiry into the Lion Yard scheme was told that the Petty Cury frontage should be excluded from redevelopment: the present useful buildings would be preserved and the character of the street maintained. But planners said they could not be adequately served as they lacked any rear access.

Runciman's veterinary premises in Downing Street had been used for 150



Petty Cury c1960